

The Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.  
Business Office ..... 916 E. Main Street,  
Washington Bureau, 3627 N. M Street,  
Manchester Bureau, 1102 11th Street,  
Petersburg Bureau, 40 N. Sycamore St.,  
Lynchburg Bureau, 215 Eighth St.  
BY MAIL. One Six Three One  
POSTAGE PAID. Year. Mo. Mo. Mo.  
Daily with Sunday, \$6.00 \$2.00 \$1.50  
Daily without Sunday, 2.00 1.00 .75  
Sunday edition only, 2.00 1.00 .75  
Weekly (Wednesday), 1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester, and Petersburg—  
1 week, 1 year.  
Daily with Sunday, \$1.14 cents. \$6.50  
Daily without Sunday, 10 cents. 4.50  
Sunday only, 5 cents. 2.50  
(Yearly subscriptions payable in advance.)

Entered, January 27, 1902, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

HOW TO CALL TIMES-DISPATCH.  
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1907.

Things being at the worst begin to mend.  
—John Webster.

Raising the Standard.

This is the season of pessimism. The prophets of evil are predicting that the country is going to smash, and some of the preachers—not pulpit preachers only—are saying that public morals are worse than ever, especially the morals of various and sundry of our captains of industry, our captains of finance and our public officials. Pessimism is in the air, and has spread over the country like an epidemic.

But there is no occasion for it. The country is just what it has always been, except that it is richer and more productive, and while there will inevitably come a setback in business, this country cannot go to smash and cannot be permanently hurt.

As for public morals, the standard is higher than ever, and that is why so many men in high places have been investigated, exposed and punished.

Was Joseph R. Burton, of Kansas, the first member of the United States Senate to trade upon his official influence? Was E. H. Harriman, president of the Union Pacific, the first railroad president to juggle the stocks of his railroad to his own profit? By no means. How, then, did the others escape, and why were these selected for the slaughter? Because public sentiment has changed for the better. Or it may be that public sentiment has but lately crystallized. In either event, public sentiment has at last asserted itself. The American people have decreed and proclaimed that a member of Congress shall not make traffic of his influence; that the trustees of insurance companies shall not gamble with the company's funds; that railroad officials shall not give rebates to individuals or corporations and thereby enable them to crush their competitors; that railroad officials must operate their roads to haul passengers and freight, and not for the purpose of manufacturing stocks and bonds and unloading them upon innocent purchasers at inflated prices.

Generally speaking, the moral standard of an individual is no higher than the moral standard of the community in which he lives. Governor Folk, of Missouri, said that when he began to prosecute the bootleggers in St. Louis, many citizens supposed to be of high moral character came to him and protested that it was not fair to make exceptions of these bootleggers when bootlegging had become a recognized custom, of which the public were well aware. The standard of the people was the standard of the bootleggers. But Folk aroused the public conscience. He declared that bootlegging was stealing, and he sent the thieves to jail. The public knew that he was right, and once aroused they rallied to their prosecuting attorney, lionized him and finally made him their chief executive officer.

It was the dawn of a new era. It was an epoch in American history. Missouri became a storm center, and the moral wave which Folk started swept over the whole country and cleared the atmosphere.

That is the whole story. That is the analysis of the situation. The delinquents are not more numerous than in other days and generations. But public sentiment has flushed and routed them. It is a cause for rejoicing and for congratulation. We have only fixed our standard higher and served notice upon all public officers and all officers of corporations that by the higher standard will their conduct be measured.

Migration of a Problem.  
"Three Philadelphia negroes terrified the passengers on a trolley car last night," says the Plainfield, N. J. News. "One of the negroes drew a revolver, causing the crowd of workmen employed at the Scott Press Works, who had boarded the car on Richmond Street, to flee in terror. A general fight ensued between the workmen and the belligerent negroes, in the course of which there were several knockdowns."

Two of the negroes were captured and arraigned in the Police Court. They pleaded that it was the other fellow who caused the row, but the justice did not relent.

"You have come to a town," said he.

where the people have become tired of fights on trolley cars, and where there has been a lot of run-play on the part of men of your race."

He then sentenced each negro to a term in prison.  
A Philadelphia man was here the other day, and when he heard some one say that there was no negro problem in Richmond, replied: "I wish it were so in Philadelphia. We've got one there all right." He declared that the negroes owned the town; that they were an important factor in politics, and that the gang protected them in their insolence; that if a negro knocked a white man from the sidewalk and the white man resented it, the negro always escaped punishment and the white man paid the fine.

This may have been an exaggeration, but any regular reader of the Philadelphia newspapers knows very well that the City of Brotherly Love has a negro problem as big as the City Hall. Mr. William Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, should visit Philadelphia and give the whites a lecture.

The Mortgage Tax.

The Times-Dispatch has always contended that the mortgage tax is double taxation, and that the borrower pays the tax "going and coming." A owns a farm assessed at \$5,000, upon which he pays a tax to county and State of one per cent. He borrows \$2,500 from B at six per cent, for which he gives his note secured by mortgage on the land. The note is assessed against the holder, and the State and county then collect one per cent, in taxes from B. But does B really pay the mortgage tax? No more than the importer pays the tax on the goods he receives from abroad. The consumer always pays the tariff tax; the borrower always pays the mortgage tax. If B's mortgage were exempt, he could afford to lend money to A at five per cent. Instead of six. And if B would not do so, some other money-lender would, granting that the loan was desirable, for there is competition among money-lenders, and competition fixes the rate.

In illustration of this we have a timely exhibit from New York. The New York Tax Reform Association says that the records of mortgage loans in that city show that, as predicted, the recording tax law has attracted money to the mortgage market and reduced interest rates. For eight months from July 1, 1906, when the law went into effect, to March 1, 1907, the average rate of interest stated on mortgages recorded in New York county was 5.15 per cent. For the corresponding period under the annual mortgage tax law the average rate was 5.51 per cent, or about 4-10 of one per cent. higher.

"Considering the state of the money market," says the secretary, "and the increased demand for capital in other lines, this decrease in the mortgage interest rate is an excellent showing for the new law. And the amount of money loaned was nearly twice as large as under the annual tax law."

Under the law of 1905-6, requiring mortgages to be listed as personal property, the amount of loans was \$50,082,453, and the amount in which interest rate was stated \$40,600,275. The interest rate for that year averaged 5.59 per cent. In 1906-7, when there was no tax on mortgages, except a recording tax, the amount loaned was \$73,442,995, the amount loaned in which the interest rate was stated was \$70,029,025, and the average rate 5.43 per cent. The exemption of mortgages had the effect apparently to induce capitalists to lend more money, and that, too, at a lower rate of interest.

It is a very plain proposition. The tax rate in Richmond, State and city, is \$1.75 on the hundred, and that tax is imposed on every mortgage loan. The usual interest rate here is six per cent. The lender, therefore, gets for his money only 4.25 per cent. net, yet real estate loans are very attractive to a class of money-lenders in Richmond. Now suppose there were no mortgage tax in Richmond, is it not clear that the interest rate would fall? And does that fact not make it clear that the borrower, and not the lender, pays the tax?

Name the Schools.

The suggestion has more than once been made that each public school building in Richmond be named for one of Virginia's distinguished sons. We already have the Madison School, the Marshall School, and so on. Why not have a similar name for every school? The High School should be named for Jefferson, as it is the capstone of the public school system of Richmond, and Jefferson was the father of the University, the capstone of the public school system of Virginia. Every other school should bear the name of a Virginian who has done his State distinguished service.

This will be an appropriate way of perpetuating the memory of our great men, and it will be an inspiration to the children.

Is Thaw Insane?

After mature deliberation, Justice Fitzgerald has determined to appoint a commission of lunacy in the Thaw case. This commission will not pass upon the question whether Thaw was sane or insane when he shot White, but whether he is now sane. Under the New York statute, no person may be tried for a crime if such person be mentally incapable of advising with counsel. If the commission decides that Thaw is insane in this construction of law, the trial will be suspended; if otherwise it will proceed, and it will then be for the jury to decide what was his state of mind when he fired the fatal shot.

Mr. Jerome holds that Thaw is now of unsound mind, and it is upon his motion that the commission is appointed. Justice Fitzgerald's decision, therefore, is a victory for the district attorney. Thaw will now have another trial.

It is—and the tax-payers pay the cost.

The movement of Mr. Dana H. Tucker, principal of the West End School, to organize the school children against vandalism is timely and most commendable. Vandalism among the boys of Richmond is very expensive to property owners, and every effort on the part of parents, guardians and teachers should be made to stop it. Moreover, Mr. Tucker's crusade is educational. Vandalism is sinful and demoralizing per se, and children should be made to understand it. All parents, teachers and the public should give Mr. Tucker their hearty encouragement and aid in his good work.

Asked to give his opinion of the Democratic situation, Dave B. Hill, inquired: "Where is it?" Had Mr. Hill put his query in proper form, to-wit: "Where is he?" we should have answered very differently, positively, but believed that he was in Lincoln, Neb.

A Colorado watch-maker, receiving documentary proof that he had expectedly fallen heir to \$50,000, laid aside the papers and calmly completed a small job of repairing. Men like this grow up to be elected to the Board of Aldermen.

An Altona (Pa.) man has found a way to convert ashes into fuel. That may be all right for Pennsylvania, but what we want down here just now is some way to turn atmosphere into ice-cream soda.

A London firm which advertised for a woman typist at \$3.75 a week received in one day 307 replies. An ex-Secretary Shaw was so fond of saying, the world's prosperity is simply alarming.

Admiral Schley announces that not for anything would he accept the Democratic nomination for Vice-President. Which position will doubtless save the admiral some embarrassment later on.

Some men will go any lengths to get their names into the public prints. Here is a San Francisco man, voluntarily going around and telling people that he is the papa of Mabelle Gilman.

They are making a great to-do over a Columbia professor who has discovered how to make artificial sunlight, just as though James Whitecomb Riley hadn't been doing it for years.

Maybe the reason that Upton Sinclair didn't provide any fire-escapes for his colonists was that he was afraid they might use them when there wasn't any fire.

Tegucigalpa has been occupied by the Nicaraguan army. For our part, we should have much preferred to see the Simplified Spelling Board take possession.

If the government ever owns the railroads, we trust it will see the propriety of appointing Mr. Harbuzian secretary of the water-cooler department.

The anxiety of certain Japanese to be just like the white man ought to be considerably allayed by the spectacle of Mr. Abraham Ruef.

The curious thing about the young man who has been asked to leave Philadelphia is that he lives in Michigan, not Philadelphia.

Chancellor Day is laid up with a case of the mumps. But, rapscallion, those cheers. Nothing ails his pen-hand.

The cost of living is said to be higher at Pittsburgh than elsewhere. It ought to be made prohibitive.

In Republican circles everybody is for Roosevelt but Fairbanks. There's a reason.

There has probably been a little grave-digging on the Isthmus, however.

What do alienists do in off seasons, when nobody is murdering anybody?

Revolting news from So. America.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The floor area of St. Peter's, Rome, is 27,796 square feet, but the floor area of any cathedral in the world.

More than one-half the members of New York City's population—2,152,295 persons—have deposits in the city's savings banks.

Crown Prince Gustavus of Sweden has had his private stables cut off to correct a deficit of \$125,000 in his private budget.

A great merit, to be devoted wholly to the sale of autos and accessories, is to be built in London. It is to be an auto "Batteries."

The Japanese embassy in London has made a collection of 10,000 objects of British and other European art, which soon will be sent to Japan.

Brooker T. Washington says the 10,000,000 negroes in the United States are the most advanced Africans in the world, especially in religion and industrial education.

Ex-Secretary Shaw, since being the New York, it is said, cuts out the midday repast at luncheon clubs and seeks a quick lunch place for sausages, buckwheat cakes and sweet cider.

Miss Anna Gould, formerly the Countess De Castellan, since her divorce has been much seen at the watering places of Southern France with her sister, and is reported in excellent health.

One-seventh of the total area of Ireland is bogland.

Regis Henri Post, of Bayport, L. I., who is to be Governor of Porto Rico, has been secretary of the Insular government since 1904. He is a Harvard graduate, as well as a graduate of the law department of the University of California.

Borrowed Jingles.

Y B might search the world's ends, But you'd find no such friends.  
As Father O'Shea and Father McCreia.  
Very naive in wit.  
Was Father O'Shea.  
But as I have a very bit.  
Was Father McCreia.  
An' oh! such a volley of fun they were pokin'.  
The wan at the other, as good as a play.  
With their ready replies an' their innocent jokin'.  
When Father O'Shea met Father McCreia.  
Now upon a March Sunday it came for to pass.  
Good Father McCreia.  
Preached a very fine sermon, an' then, after mass.  
Met Father O'Shea.  
"Twas a very appropriate sermon for Lent.  
You delivered this minute.  
For the 'season of fastin' 'twas very well met."  
I could find no meat in it!"  
Said Father O'Shea.  
Then, quick as the laughter that gleamed in his eyes,  
Good Father McCreia.  
Raised a finger of protest an' made his reply.  
"Faith I'll have to be workin' a miracle next.  
To comply with your wishes;  
Dare you ask me for meat, my dear sir, in Lent?"  
Was the longest an' the fishes?"  
Said Father McCreia.  
—T. A. Daly in Catholic Standard and Times.

MERELY JOKING.

Ah There, Brander!  
Teacher: "Willard, name some of the great reformers."  
Mrs. Gayboy: "For me, my dear sir, I would name William Lloyd Garrison."  
Woman's Home Companion.

Gayboy: "No, dear, you are mistaken about my having had too much to drink last night."  
Mrs. Gayboy: "Then, for mercy's sake, why did you take off your shoes to go upstairs after I had gone down and let you in myself?"—Detroit Free Press.

Not a Bit.  
Dolly: "Tell me this new scandal about the family."  
Polly: "But it isn't true."  
Dolly: "What difference does that make?"

A Fair Principle.  
"Permit me to ask you, madam," said the lawyer, who was a friend of the family, "your real reason for wanting a divorce from your husband?"  
"He isn't the man I bought!"  
"My dear madam," rejoined the lawyer, "the application of that principle would be every home in the country."  
—Chicago Tribune.

Hard Luck.  
"Say, that gold brick you sold me isn't worth a cent."  
"Dear, dear," responded the dealer, "with sympathy, the gold brick market does fluctuate. Why, that metal was worth a thousand to me!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHS.  
"A BOUT all it takes to reorganize a railroad these days is a roller-top little nerve," says the Atlanta Journal. Why the desk?—Manchester Union.

Some of the railway magnates appear to suspect that the government already owns the railroads.—Philadelphia Press.

What matters it what the multicolored among the American Rhodes scholars at Oxford are doing in scholarship? The winning of the high and broad jumps and the hammer-throwing event by American students is the main thing.—New York Times.

The temperature in Oklahoma is reported to be 102 degrees in the shade. Even though the thermometer in the station has adjourned.—New York Tribune.

In due time, perhaps Mr. Roosevelt will demonstrate that a drastic and consistent of the Senate" cuts no ice in the selection of his successor.—Washington Post.

Congressman Campbell, of Kansas, wants a law to prohibit stock-gambling. This, indeed, is a war on vested rights.—Philadelphia North American.

Joseph Flint, or whoever coined the word "graft," probably never dreamed it would be used in a New York office advertisement in the San Francisco degree.—New York Mail.

COMMENT OF VIRGINIA EDITORS.  
The Truly Great.  
He that ruleth a city is greater than he who taketh a spirit.—Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch.

A Hint Not Needed.  
The Richmond Y. M. C. A. is apologizing for bringing Tillman to that city. The best way to show him how sorry they are to do it again.—Fredericksburg Free Lance.

Demand for College Men.  
The college-bred man is surely having his innings nowadays. From the presidency down through the cabinet, the army and navy, and in the ranks of the professions, he predominates, and in business he has shown himself a training device not slow to the cent per cent. transactions of mercantile life.—Portsmouth Star.

Home Notes.  
A Virginian cannot understand the attitude of Judge Fitzgerald. He allows Jerome to state statements which the alibi does not intend to believe—statements of a character which in this State no trial jury would believe. Jerome's alibi, however, is a mere fiction, and the judge has no word of protest or rebuke.—Winchester Star.

The Unwilling Law.  
The people will protect their homes against men of evil intent. When it was thought a young female patient had been cured, the people of Williamsburg were much wrought up. Happily it was proven that the supposition was groundless, and that both parties involved were innocent of any wrong-doing.—Winchester Star.

In His Own Country.  
The "Passionate Pilgrim"—My good man, do you whether I'm right for Stratford-on-Avon?  
Rule silent.

Tourist (encouragingly)—Stratford—Shakespeare's country. You know Shakespeare?  
Rustle (brightening)—Yus, be you he?—Ally Sloper.

DRUNKENNESS CURED

It will be gratifying to all lovers of temperance and a happy home to know that a simple and a scientific cure for the whiskey and beer habit has been discovered. The cure is simple, and it is in accordance with the simple directions in the package, and the discoverer has so much confidence in the treatment that we are authorized to sell it with an absolute guarantee, to effect a cure or the money will be refunded.

It is in two forms: No. 1 to be given secretly, and No. 2, for those who wish to be cured, \$1 each. Mothers and sisters have cured husbands and brothers who since they were given Orin, in many cases without their knowledge, have been cured. Orin never fails to recommend the remedy. Mail orders filled. The Orin Co., Washington, D. C. or Folk Miller Drug Co., Folk Miller, Children.

The Sympathizer.  
"Cracker seems to feel a great sympathy for any one who is ill."  
"But his idea of sympathy is to get some poor old man in a corner and tell him how miserable he's looking."—The Catholic Standard and Times.

People Seen in Public Places

Former Senator Don P. Hanley, of Lynchburg, is in the city concerning his campaign for the Senate when seen last night he said:  
"So far as Senator Daniel is concerned, Mr. Thomas is responsible for bringing in the controversy. As soon as Major Daniel declared his opposition to the views of Mr. Bryan on the subject of the ownership of railroads, Mr. Thomas, in an interview, made an attack on Senator Daniel, and declared his opposition to him. It is only natural, therefore, that Major Daniel's friends desire that the Senator from his home district shall be one who favors his re-election, for, while it is true that Senator Daniel's successor may be chosen by a primary, it is at the same time possible that the next State convention will decide that the United States Senators shall no longer be chosen by primary, as it is very apparent from expressions of many Democrats, that they do not look with favor upon this system. And it will be the members of the State Senate who will have the final decision in voting for United States Senators."

"In my address to the voters at Lynchburg last night, I stated that I would such discretion left with me, I would undoubtedly vote for Senator Daniel's re-election, while Senator Thomas says Senator Daniel will not be his choice. It looks more to me as if Senator Thomas is trying to punish Senator Daniel for criticism of Mr. Bryan than to punish Senator Thomas for trying to punish Senator Daniel."

"In this connection it may be remembered that Senator Thomas's enthusiasm for Colonel Bryan is of rather recent origin, as in the memorable campaign of 1896, Senator Thomas carried his opposition to the extent of voting against the Democratic ticket, as I have good reason to believe."

"Regarding the alternating of Senator between the county and the city, it is the first candidate in the city or the county to undertake to abrogate it. He would alter the machinery of the system, for when he was chosen Senator at the end of my term neither I nor any other citizen of Lynchburg was a candidate and the contest was between him and another citizen of Campbell."

"I had as much right to be a candidate for re-election then as he has this time. As the machinery of the system, which he says, abrogated the alternating plan, was in force then, nothing has changed since, and the situation, I did not offer for re-election because, among other reasons, I did not believe that the Democrats of Lynchburg and Campbell would make an effort to break up the long-standing system by which the candidate was chosen, first from one and then from the other district. I would not believe that in my judgment there is no reason to believe they will do so now."

General Stith Bolling, of Petersburg, is at Murphy's.

Mr. J. Cullen Carrington, clerk of the Circuit Court of Charlotte county, is in the city. Mr. Carrington is the chairman of the Jamestown Exposition Committee for the State of Virginia, and that old Charlotte will show up all right when the expositions opens.

J. W. Booker, of Lynchburg, and Thos. Watkins, of South Boston, are at Murphy's.

Mr. Roger Gregory, Jr., of King William, is stopping at the Richmond.

ROSCOE REEVES TO-NIGHT

Will Present Humorous Recital, "A Night of Story-Telling."  
At the Y. M. C. A. Hall to-night Mr. Roscoe Reeves, the English actor, will present his humorous recital, "A Night of Story-Telling."

This is a program that gives Mr. Reeves opportunity for the demonstration of his remarkable versatility, and has won for him an excellent reputation as a raconteur.

Those who wish to drive full care away will do well to "take the sunny side" with Reeves to-night.

The affair will be given under the auspices of the Richmond Civic League for the benefit of public playgrounds.

DEMOLISHED HOUSE: FINED IN COURT  
Six negro women were each fined \$5 in the Police Court yesterday morning on the charge of tearing to pieces a vacant house owned by Mrs. M. J. Brown. The remains of the house for brecked, and the police by the police until most of the portable part of the structure was taken away. This when they lined up in the Police Court yesterday morning they were proven guilty and given a warning. As warm weather is coming, the next time will be very little fire, and they may not be heard from again before next winter.

CHICKENS CAUSED TROUBLE.  
Charles B. Eaton, colored, is at the First Station, charged with kicking Emmett Harris. The row started over a group of talk about some chickens, and Dr. Jones had to fix up Emmett's leg. Justice John will hear about it.

PARADE ON SUNDAY AND ATTEND CHURCH  
Military Company to Hear Sermon by Rev. Dr. George W. McDaniel.

The rifle team of Company A, the Richmond Grays, will go to Fredericksburg on Monday to meet the team of Company L of that city, in competitive target shooting. The team will consist of ten men. This company has defeated the other local companies with which it has competed and has beaten the Petersburg Grays, and is thirsting for more glory. Next Sunday it will have a church parade and will attend religious services at the First Baptist Church. The pastor, Rev. Dr. George W. McDaniel, will preach an appropriate sermon. The command, which numbers about sixty-five men, will turn out for the first time in the new full dress uniforms.

Company H, of the Blues, and Company E, of the regiment, will drill on Wednesday night at their respective armories. On Thursday night Company C, of the Blues, will hold its regular meeting.

Company C, of the regiment, held an interesting meeting at the armory Monday night, and had the usual weekly drill. This company and Companies B and E, recruited rapidly, but are cutting off those members who absent themselves from drills and avoid military duties.

The contractor for furnishing the new uniforms of the Richmond Light Infantry Battalion has been selected to a member of that organization stating that he finds it impossible to secure sufficient numbers of 14 grade specified to provide the feather pomps on the dress helmets of the company. He will send abroad to secure the material, and will have it shipped to the stock of them in this country being exhausted.

This necessity may somewhat delay the outfitting of the company in the matter of full dress uniform.

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AMUSEMENTS.  
Academy—"The Sloop to Conquer."  
Hijon—"The Sign of the Cross."  
Hoskock's—Wild Animal Show.  
Idlewood—Skating Rink.  
Revival of Goldsmith's Comedy.  
It was an unspeakable relief last evening to turn aside from the flip-pant, frivolous farce and comedy of the modern stage to Oliver Goldsmith's delightful and incomparable comedy of old English manners and customs, so cleverly played by Mr. Wm. H. Crane, Miss Ellis Jeffreys and a talented and select supporting company. Last night's large audience, large in spite of Holy Week—laughed as long and loud and applauded as heartily at the clever lines and amusing situations of the famous old play as must have done the bright audience away back in 1773, when its author, fearful of his failure, stayed away from the theatre until the end of the act. "The Sloop to Conquer" marked a new era in the English drama, making it more natural and less sentimental, and its characters are to-day familiar household words in every English home.  
The version of the play as presented by Mr. Crane does not differ essentially from the original except that it is presented in four instead of five acts. Mr. Crane's Hargrave is too familiar to elicit lengthy comment. It is a splendid piece of work, a polished portrayal of a typical English "squire" of the eighteenth century, and the last lost none of its charm in the long period during which the actor has laid it aside. Miss Ellis Jeffreys, an English actress of renown, played Kate Hardcastle with rare skill, infusing much of her charming personality into the role, and making many friends by her clever work.  
Miss Margaret Dale, pleasantly remembered as Mr. John Drew's leading woman, was particularly pleasing as the coquettish Miss Neville, and no one could have been more convincing than she. The Tony Lumpkin of Mr. George Giddens is well-wrought and lively, and his portrayal of the roguish, amusing, and mischievous will rank among the best ever given on the stage. Mr. Fred Thorne played the small part of Digory in a highly effective manner, and was screamingly funny in the role. The comedy act where Hardcastle instructs his servants in their duties—one of the truest bits of comedy on the English-speaking stage—Walter Hale, a clever young leading man, was at his best as yodler Marlow, and did a finished piece of work as the awkward young nobleman, married only by a trace of affection. Mrs. Fanny Addison Pitt, a familiar figure on the American stage, in her work as Mrs. Hardcastle, a role with which she has been identified before, left nothing to be desired. The stage settings are adequate—no elaborate scenery is required—and in every respect the revival is worthy of the perennially charming old play.  
To-night's performance closes the engagement.

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Como Lithia Water  
Will Clear the Complexion.  
Heat to a temperature as hot as the flesh can well bear, and bathe the face at night; wet a towel and apply it steaming hot to the face, holding it for a minute or two, repeating it several times, then gently drying the skin by applying a soft, dry towel, after which cold cream or white vaseline is gently rubbed into the flesh, to remove wrinkles, clear the complexion, and make the skin soft and beautiful.

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